

ERASTUS HUTCHINS.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 446.]

MARCH 23, 1860.

Mr. C. D. MARTIN, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Erastus Hutchins, a soldier of the war of 1812, submitted the following report:

It appears from the petition that Erastus Hutchins, a resident of McConnellsville, in the county of Morgan, and State of Ohio, was in the service of the United States in the war of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain; that he served as a private and as a substitute in the New York militia, in the company commanded by Captain Beech, in the regiment commanded by Colonel Stranahan. While in the service aforesaid, and in the line of his duty, at the Falls of Niagara, he was taken sick with the measles and rendered unfit for duty. At the time he was taken sick, and during the time he remained sick in camp, the weather was intensely cold, with several inches of snow on the ground, and the regiment had nothing but common army tents to shelter the sick from the cold and storms. Being thus exposed, the petitioner was taken with a severe cold which settled in his back, making him a cripple during the remainder of his life, and as he advances in years his disability increases.

After continuing sick in camp for some length of time without any prospect of getting well or any better, and, under the circumstances, not being able to procure a proper discharge, Captain Beech gave to the petitioner a *pass*, so that whenever he thought proper he might pass the guard. After much difficulty, owing to his extreme disability, he reached home, but never became well enough to return to his duty. The regiment was mustered out of service, and the petitioner never procured a proper or final discharge. The *pass* furnished him by Captain Beech was lost many years since. It further appears that it is impracticable for him to procure the certificate of his captain or other commissioned officer under whom he served, stating the time and place the disability occurred, as there is reason to believe that

they are either dead or removed to parts unknown to him or to those now residing in the immediate vicinity where the company of Captain Beech was raised.

The committee are therefore of opinion that the petitioner is clearly entitled to a pension of eight dollars per month from the 21st day of May, 1858, and therefore report the accompanying bill.

REPORT

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Erastus Hutchins, a resident of McDonoughville, in the County of Morgan, and State of Ohio, was in the service of the United States in the war of 1812, between the United States and Great Britain; that he served as a private and as a captain in the New York militia, in the company commanded by Captain Beech, in the regiment commanded by Colonel Blandin. While in the service afebrile, and in the line of his duty, at the Falls of Niagara, he was taken sick with the measles and remained until for three weeks. At the time he was taken sick, and during the time he remained sick in camp, the weather was intensely cold, with several inches of snow on the ground, and the regiment had nothing but common army tents to shelter the sick from the cold and storm. Being thus exposed, the petitioners was taken with a severe cold which resulted in his death, making him a invalid during the remainder of his life and such weakness it seems the disability incurred.

After continuing sick in camp for some length of time without any prospect of getting well or any better, and under the circumstances not being able to perform a regular discharge, Captain Beech gave to the petitioners a proper discharge, whereupon he thought proper he might pass the ground. After much difficulty, owing to his extreme disability, he reached home, but never became well enough to return to his duty. The regiment was mustered out of service, and the petitioners never presented a proper or final discharge. The case furnished him by Captain Beech was lost many years since. It further appears that it is impracticable for him to procure the certificate of his captain or other commissioned officer under whom he served, stating the time and place the disability occurred, as there is reason to believe that